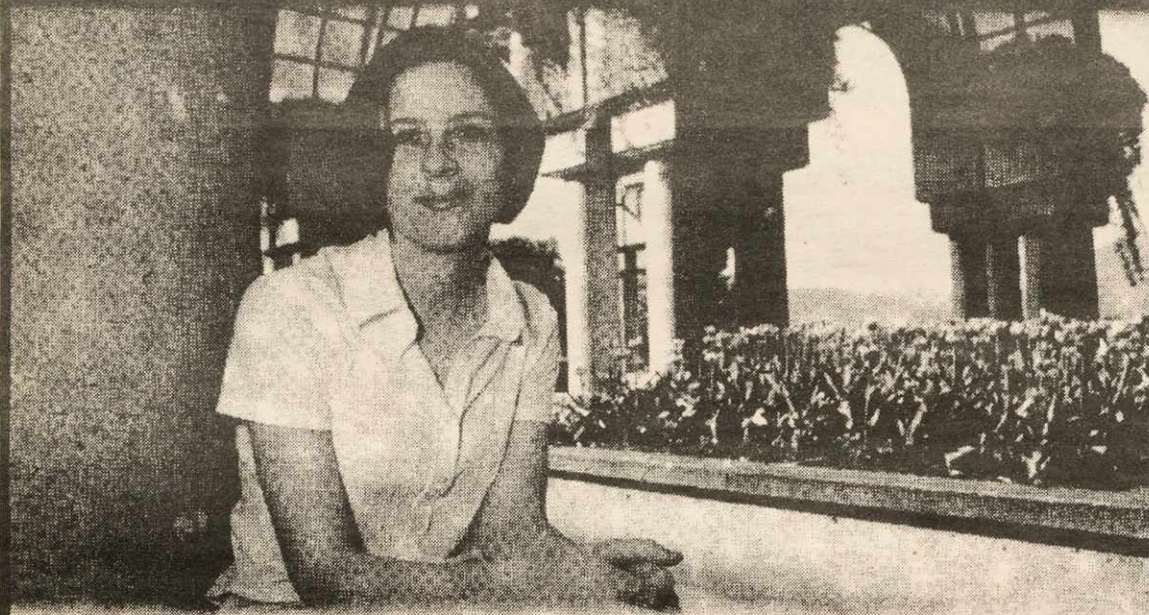


"THANKS TO MY DEGREE AND THE SKILLS I LEARNED AT ITI, I KNOW HOW REWARDING IT FEELS TO BE IN DEMAND."



Melissa Bradshaw, Content Co-ordinator, Information Management Group, Seagate Software Diploma, Applied Information Technology, ITI; BA (English), Saint Mary's University

After graduating from university and working in a number of part-time retail jobs, Melissa Bradshaw realized that she needed additional education. "I wasn't getting anywhere with my degree - but I noticed that the newspapers were filled with ads for IT-related jobs. I knew that I should learn more about the IT industry."

Melissa moved from Halifax to Vancouver after graduation and lived there for a year. Hearing about ITI from a friend in Halifax, she attended an ITI information session and decided to move back to Halifax to enrol. "I chose ITI because it catered to university grads and was directed to people without an extensive computer background. It was an opportunity to get the skills I needed to find a job in less than a year - I didn't want to spend another two years in school."

"ITI was so professional. I liked the fact that the students were university grads; they were there to work and were committed to the program. It was a lot like being in a good workplace with very high morale. It was challenging and well worth it. About a month after graduation, I was offered my job at Seagate in Vancouver. I had several other strong leads, but Seagate gave me an opportunity to enhance my knowledge of the programming languages and databases I learned about at ITI. For the first two years, I was on the front line as a technical service representative. Recently, I was promoted to Content Co-ordinator, writing and editing technical support information - which means I get to use my knowledge of English and my IT skills."

Melissa notes that she really enjoys working at Seagate, a leading provider of technology and products enabling people to store, access and manage information. Even though she's not looking for work, the number of calls she receives from employers with positions to fill indicates the enormous need for skilled people. That makes her feel proud. "I put a lot of time and effort into my education. It's rewarding to know that so many companies value my talent and skills."

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Sloan, Mr. T, and premature shagging



photo by Pascal Langstaffon

Sloan plays the hometown crowd at the SUB

BY KATHERINE HEBB
AND JEN CLEARY

Sloan blew our pants off, literally. The performance barely held our attention.

We left the concert prematurely, sick of the teenybopper girls with their trendy barrettes and the all-too-familiar mosh pit psychos. We left the concert early to go shag (get your mind out of the gutter; we left with our respective boyfriends).

We made it to the concert, already half in the bag. Unfortunately a friend of ours wasn't as lucky. To protect the privacy of this individual we'll call him Mr. T.

Mr. T. began his evening at the Grawood, throwing back as many beers as it takes to bring home a bearded slut from the Palace. He was off to a good start.

When he arrived at the concert, with tickets in hand and underwear wrapped around his head, he left immediately, curious as to what took him to the McInnes Room in the first place. Rumour has it he spent the remainder of the night in front of the SUB, pissing in a garbage can and sacrificing squirrels.

But in all seriousness, the Sloan concert had its good points. Despite the weak live performance, the audience enjoyed hearing familiar tunes. The energy level was high, and the floor was shaking. The songs in the two-hour show, ended by a lengthy encore, were constantly accompanied by fans enthusiastically singing along.

Sloan's minimal audience

interaction was the key downfall of their performance. Had the band members pumped concert-goers with a more lively performance, more people would have been dancing. The audience could have used the extra push, but instead the majority of them stood awkwardly watching the show, and the room felt like a high school dance. Oddly enough, that's what usually happens when a semi-superb, over-priced concert comes to the McInnes Room.

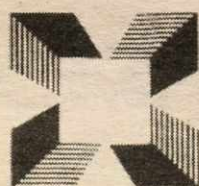
Don't get us wrong, we love Sloan. But for \$18 a ticket, spinning a new Sloan album at home would have been a better deal. Come on, a giant tacky neon "4" as the stage background doesn't really speak of creativity.

Although Sloan didn't knock the boots off the audience, or manage to keep the attention of a completely intoxicated, out-of-control guy, their talent remains evident. The rotation of instruments between the band members and catchy beats and lyrics all contribute to the success of the band. Their carefree attitude on stage is all part of their geeky 70s act - they're the type of guys who sat two seats behind you in grade 10 English that you secretly wanted to bone.

They're enjoying fame and from the quality of the concert, it looks as if they don't really care about maintaining it. Maybe if the band had shown a keener interest in entertaining, they'd have been able to play a sold out show - and keep a drunken member of the A-team from sacrificing squirrels in front of the SUB.

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